

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Atty. Docket No.: 24487

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TEMME, Werner; BERGS, Ralph; HABERLE, Hans; MAIER, Alois

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filing Date: January 25, 2001

For: **USE OF AQUEOUS POLYURETHANE DISPERSIONS IN FORMULATIONS FOR
SPORTS FLOOR COVERINGS**

(A Continuation of International Application PCT/EP99/05384 filed on July 27, 199

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments for the above identified application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please Cancel claims 1 through 17.

Please enter the following claims 18 through 38.

18. A method for making sports floor coverings comprising the use of a formulation comprising aqueous, isocyanate-free polyurethane dispersions, wherein said dispersions have a solid matter content of ≥ 30 percent by weight and a solvent content of ≤ 10 percent by weight.
19. A method according to claim 18, wherein said dispersions have a solid matter content ranging from 40 to 70 percent by weight.
20. A method according to claim 18, wherein said dispersions have a solvent content of less than 5 percent by weight.
21. A method according to claim 18, wherein said dispersions are solvent-free.
22. A method according to claim 18, wherein the polyurethane polymers of said dispersions form micelles having an average particle size of from 100 to 500 nm, preferably from 200 to 400 nm.
23. A method according to claim 22, wherein the polyurethane polymers have an average molecular mass of 25,000 to 100,000 Daltons.

24. A method according to claim 18, wherein said polyurethane dispersion acts as a bonding agent for elastic layers comprising rubber granulates or fibers as well as optionally additives.
25. A method according to claim 18, wherein said polyurethane dispersion acts as an adhesion promotor, said adhesion promotor being applied to an undersurface of a floor covering.
26. A method according to claim 18, wherein said polyurethane dispersion acts as a primary coat being applied to an undersurface of a sports floor covering.
27. A method according to claim 18, wherein said polyurethane dispersion acts as a spray coat, said spray coat being applied to an elastic or stiff undersurface.
28. A method according to claim 27, wherein said polyurethane dispersion contains a structural filler material.
29. A method according to claim 27, wherein said polyurethane dispersion contains 0.1 to 1.0 weight percent of UV stabilizers based on sterically hindered amines relative to the total weight of the formulation.
30. A method according to claim 18, wherein said polyurethane dispersion acts as a flow coat, said flow coat being applied to an elastic or stiff undersurface.

31. A method according to claim 28, wherein said polyurethane dispersion contains 0.1 to 1.0 percent by weight of UV stabilizers based on sterically hindered amines relative to the total weight of the formulation.
32. A method according to claim 18, wherein said polyurethane dispersion is applied as filler material to seal pores of undersurfaces of sports floor coverings.
33. A method according to claim 18, wherein said polyurethane dispersion is applied as an adhesive to glue prefabricated elastic layers.
34. A method for sealing sports floor coverings comprising applying a formulation according to claim 18, optionally together with pigments.
35. A method according to claim 34, wherein said polyurethane dispersion contains 0.1 to 1.0 percent by weight of UV stabilizers based on sterically hindered amines relative to the total weight of the formulation.
36. A method according to claim 18, wherein said dispersions are applied to elastic or stiff undersurfaces in layers having a total thickness of 0.1 to 50 mm.
37. A method for applying said polyurethane dispersion according to claim 18 in quantities of 0.1 to 10.0 kg per m² of surface to be covered per work cycle.

38. A method according to claim 18 wherein the polyurethane dispersion is a one-component formulation.


REMARKS

The above amendments have been made to remove multiple dependencies from the claims.
No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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